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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CCD Business Development Corporation Names Lehi Dowell as Deputy Director

[Roseburg, Oregon] — CCD Business Development Corporation (CCD) is pleased to announce the promotion of Lehi Dowell to the position of Deputy Director. Mr. Dowell previously served as CCD's Community and Economic Development Director, a role in which he oversaw a portfolio of \$65 million in regional projects spanning infrastructure, housing, and climate resilience. His leadership has been instrumental in securing more than \$30 million in infrastructure and programmatic funding over the past four years.

Mr. Dowell joined CCD in 2021 as Economic Recovery Coordinator, successfully leading the development of the nationally recognized, award-winning COVID-19 Economic Recovery Initiative (ERI), funded by the EDA CARES Act. He was later promoted to Economic Development Director in 2022 and subsequently to Community and Economic Development Director in 2023. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Dowell has demonstrated exceptional dedication to the communities CCD serves.

A proud product of the region, Mr. Dowell graduated from Sutherlin High School before pursuing higher education nationally. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish from the University of La Verne in Los Angeles (Cum Laude) and a Master of Science in Hospitality and Tourism Management from Florida International University in Miami (Magna Cum Laude). Mr. Dowell is a doctoral candidate in Planning, Governance, and Globalization at Virginia Tech's School of Public and International Affairs, within the College of Architecture and Urban Studies, and has completed graduate certificates in Nonprofit Management and the Future Professoriate program. While at Virginia Tech, he was recognized as a Graduate School Diversity Scholar, a Global Perspectives Scholar, and a Citizen Scholar. He was also nominated for the New River Valley Leading Lights Award and the Virginia Tech University Student Leadership Award in the category of Outstanding Graduate Student Leader of the Year.

Mr. Dowell returned to Oregon from Manhattan, New York, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, bringing with him a wealth of national leadership experience and a deep, renewed commitment to the region he has long called home. His deep ties to the community and his passion for rural development and economic resilience have made him an invaluable member of the CCD leadership team. He resides in Glide, Oregon, on his family's homestead along the North Umpqua River.

"Lehi's promotion to Deputy Director reflects not only his professional accomplishments but also his steadfast dedication to the communities we serve," said Theresa Haga, CCD Executive Director. "We look forward to many more years of his leadership and contributions to the region."

For more information about CCD's programs or how to get involved, please visit www.ccdbusiness.org or contact Lehi Dowell, l.dowell@ccdbusiness.com

About CCD Business Development Corporation

CCD Business Development Corporation (CCD), as a non-profit entity, has been providing community and economic development services in Southern Oregon since 1971. CCD is the Economic Development District (EDD) designated by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), representing Coos, Curry, and Douglas counties. As the EDD, CCD is responsible for holding county stakeholder feedback sessions, organizing, submitting, and ultimately receiving approval for the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). In addition, CCD is a Certified Development Company (CDC) as designated by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Mission Statement

To encourage economic development, diversify local economies, support industry, and enhance quality of life for all in the region.